IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A portable terminal in an information distribution system using a local server accessible through a local radio network for a short-distance communication with no communication fee and using a subscription server accessible through a public network for a long-distance communication with a communication fee, the portable terminal comprising:

a local radio network interface configured to access the local server through the local radio network;

a public network interface configured to access the subscription server through the public network;

a local server access request unit configured to send an access request for original local information provided by the local server, to the local server only through the local radio network, along with a terminal ID for identifying the portable terminal; and

a membership subscription request unit configured to receive a server access membership subscription guidance for urging the portable terminal to carry out a membership subscription procedure through the local radio network when the access request is rejected by the local server, and then send a server access membership subscription request through the public network to an address of the subscription server described in the server access membership subscription guidance.

Claim 2 (Original): The portable terminal of claim 1, wherein the membership subscription request unit sends the server access membership subscription request along with a local server ID attached to the server access membership subscription guidance.

Claim 3 (Original):   The portable terminal of claim 1, further comprising:

a tentative password memory unit configured to store a tentative password with a limited valid period which is given from the subscription server in response to the server access membership subscription request;

wherein the local server access request unit sends another access request for the local information provided by the local server, along with the tentative password stored in the tentative password memory unit, after receiving the tentative password from the subscription server in response to the server access membership subscription request.

Claim 4 (Original):   The portable terminal of claim 1, further comprising:

an information processing unit configured to process the local information received from the local server in response to the access request.

Claims 5-15 (Canceled).

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The portable terminal of claim 1, wherein the original local information is provided by the local server through the local radio network interface.